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NEWS AND Gossip.

All Sorts of Personal, Political and Social Paragraphs.

Matters and Things for Everybody's Taste.

Blind Tom has returned from England.

Why is a boot? Like the sun? Because it shines for all.

There are a good many lies in circulation about the hop crop.

The "school of repentance" is just now a camp-stool.

The St. Louis Board of Health have prohibited the sale of fresh oysters until September 15.

An Iowa editor who is determined to have his paper read, prints it entirely in red ink.

John B. Gough is to receive \$12,000 for preaching temperance in Chicago this winter.

A young lady named Swan, aged nineteen, and weighing four hundred and sixty pounds, has arrived in Portland.

The New York Herald speaks of a sensational exhibition, the "ext" is extra.

Congress will have a word or two to say about that.

New York, which is behind the age in many things, is to have a billiard table in the public rooms of the hotel.

General Duff Green has begun the publication of "The Daily Liberator," a conservative paper, in Maryland.

A model husband in Wales trundled his sick wife two hundred miles in a wheelbarrow to "holly well" where she could be cured of her ailment.

Tom Thumb is installed at Bridgeport for the present. Barnum exhibits him again in the fall. The General is to be exhibited in the country who has no breath.

Punch says as harvest time comes on, complaints are heard that respiration is not general enough.

The victory of Egypt is said to have been immensely struck with the beauty of the English ladies, but greatly shocked at their riding horseback.

Madame Ann de la Grange, the great cantatrice, will arrive from Europe in the early part of next month, when she will make her farewell appearance.

An old town ledger, at Steuben, Maine, contains the following memorandum: "March 27, 1816—By James J. Smith, a member of the Senate at the last session of the Legislature, He never once alludes to that vote, but contents himself, as above, in characterizing the Republicans as venal."

We desire him to classify those three members of his own party, and tell us if they, too, are venal. What is to be thought of the reformatory tendencies and proclivities of a party, seventy-five per cent. of whose membership in one branch of the Legislature voted for the fashion of those members?

We do not charge that they were venal in casting their votes. We do not make that charge against any of the members. On the contrary, we presume that most, if not all of them, were free from any corrupt intentions. At all events, we know of no member who was offered or accepted a bribe? Does the editor of the Register?

If he does, will he please tell us whether any of the "converts" are included in that category? If not, will he tell us what were their motives as distinguished from those of their fellow members, who voted the same way?

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad question is not one that needs necessarily to be discussed from a standpoint of venality and corruption. It is possible that unworthy motives may have been held out and acted upon in the votes that were cast. Perhaps the Register can point out the "converts." We do not point out the "converts" by that paper or some other reliable authority.

The question can be argued and settled on its merits, for it has legal and constitutional status. It has been in Circuit Court and will possibly go up to the Court of Appeals, whatever may be the decision of the legislature. We should be glad if it could be confined to the Courts alone.

We are not prepared of settling it in the legislature on a satisfactory basis. The Company does not recognize the justice of taxing its property on the terms laid down in Sec. 1, Article 8, of the Constitution. It sees its charter and prior legislation under the old State against that Section. It also claims that there are grave difficulties in ascertaining and levying an equitable valuation of its property in the different counties, and that there is no law enabled to present a case calling for comprehensive legislation.

Perhaps all these claims and arguments had something to do with the vote cast last winter. Maybe the Register will admit that they, at least, operated on the conservative minds referred to, even if they did not on the Republicans. Perhaps they might operate the same way on a whole household of conservatives, were we to turn in and elect them. Will the Register give us a guarantee in advance against such a possibility? If it will not, will we be obliged to decline co-operating with it for a change.

The question is vexatious and troublesome, and largely so because of the claims set up by the company. For two years efforts at compromise have been tried without arriving at a settlement. The company want to buy off below the amount of tax that will accrue under the enforcement of that unconstitutional clause referred to. It is a question for the courts to decide whether it is amenable to that clause. And it is a question that the Legislature cannot settle. Then why bring it out to body at all? Why not resolutely keep it out until the courts shall render their decision? Once they decide the points raised by the company, the latter will probably feel prepared to offer a basis of settlement conformable to the constitution. Meanwhile the usual course of proceedings in the Legislature need not be distracted, nor time wasted by a repetition of the last two years' experience. As the question now stands no man can tell whether any law or any compromise that might be agreed on would be binding on the State. The Constitutional clause is very explicit and by its terms forbids any discrimination in favor of any property not excepted in the section. We have never been able to see how the Baltimore and Ohio Road was to successfully resist its application. But that is a question that the courts will adjust, and we propose to leave it to them and keep it out of the Legislature.

politics, to consider the best method of promoting the material interests of the State, and to consider the propriety of forming a State league, to be in the hands of the National Anti-Monopoly Cheap Freight Railway League, in support of the measures in the National Congress, by Senator Henderson of Missouri, Senator of Iowa, and Nye of Nevada."

The reporter of the New York Times, crossing the ocean in the Dunderberg, says: "I am no stranger to heavy weather on shipboard, as it has been my fortune to make many voyages on all classes of vessels, among them some of the largest and best that enter the harbor of New York. In all my experience, however, I never knew anything to approach the Dunderberg in the quiet dignity of her behavior in a high sea. Her motions in the heavy weather were always easy and majestic."

McCauley, the King's county barrister, had his house furnished from bar to cellar in the most sumptuous manner with the proceeds of his robberies. The paintings upon the walls, the Brussels carpets upon the floors, the wine in the cellar, the books on the elegant tables, all formerly graced other mansions, and much has been identified. It puzzles the police to understand how he accumulated such bulky robberies. He is a young man, and neither his wife nor his neighbors were aware of his dissipation.

Crocker, formerly English Secretary of the Admiralty, was an Irishman, and remarkable for his self-conceit and the conservatism of his opinions. At the dinner party, he even pertinaciously insisted in setting the Duke of Wellington right as to the battle of Waterloo. The Duke, charging the subject upon Crocker's opinion, found Crocker still opposing his opinion. The Duke lost his patience, at length, and exclaimed: "Come, Crocker, I may not know it, but I know that you are wrong."

When gentlemen are out of literary and scientific attainments, they are in their own minds known through the medium of advertising, a thing which is very common in this country. The London Advertiser contains a list of these advertisements, from which we learn that a gentleman, long resident in France, desired to write a letter to another English gentleman, of independent means, literary habits and high accomplishments, and who, for eight months, as assistant editor of a newspaper, review or magazine still another gentleman, who was a member of the daily and weekly press, is now open to an engagement as editor; and another gentleman, an experienced leader of opinion, is willing to write regularly, occasionally, for any newspaper or review.

A Philadelphia letter goes pretty freely about the handsome ladies of that city. It says: "Every once in a while I see a scrap in a New England paper about the beauty of certain of the Philadelphia beauties. Now she is not the prettiest woman, by any means. Miss Schenberg is not a native of Philadelphia. We do not give you a score of ladies who will rival her. Were you to ask my opinion as to the prettiest woman in Philadelphia, I should say, 'Miss Emma C. Tilton is by far the handsomest. She is a lady of eighteen, while Miss Schenberg is at least thirty-five.'"

The New York Times, Stots Bash, is spoken of as a very amiable and intelligent man, with fine abilities for government. He is a handsome man, is able, and only thirty-one years of age. When in full court costume he wears white silk robes, with sleeves of white satin, having his crest embroidered in lilac silk. On his head is oddly perched a paper cap, strongly resembling the jeweled cap of the Emperor of the East. His trousers are stiff with cloth of gold, and he carries a fan in his right hand.

The official report gives the effective strength of the army brought into the field by Prussia and allies, as 437,265 men, 19,112 horses, 10,000 mules, 123 generals and 8664 officers. The total number of wounded was 669 officers and 10,662 men, 6,690 horses. The number of officers wounded was relatively twice as great as that of private soldiers.

M. Pelletan, in a speech at the Corps Legislatif, in relation to the management of popular libraries and in defense of the novel, said: "A novel is a world in itself, and the value of a certain famous romance, which has wrought the greatest revolution of our age, is the compensation from slavery; for nobody ignores the truth that the Presidency of Lincoln was the result of a novel, 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.'"

In the House of Lords, recently, Mr. Anderson, Q. C., in alluding to a certain person, called him Captain Patrick. The Lord Chancellor said: "I have said the captain's name was not Patrick, but Peter. Mr. Anderson said they were convertible terms. The Lord Chancellor said: 'Patrick and St. Peter the same?' Mr. Anderson replied: 'Yes, the names are the same, but the Lord Chancellor said: 'I formed the Lord Chancellor that the learned counsel was right—in Scotland Patrick was Peter and Peter was Patrick.'"

The New York Post says: "Around the east side of the City Hall Park may be daily seen sundry Chinamen attending to the graves of the rich. They are long been cut off, and their coarse black hair hanging stiffly down, is cut and combed into a queue, and they are no longer wear their native costume. Of the fifty or sixty living in this city, two or three only speak English, and the rest are imperfectly conversant with the Chinese language."

The rest speak scarcely a dozen words of it. They live entirely on their own, and are in the habit of living with the surrounding world. Their employment is manufacturing cigars, keeping cigar-stands, and acting as coolies upon ships. In all they are good subsistence, and being closely economical, they save money. They live in the tenements of the city, and are not far from the Bowery and Bleecker streets. But one among them has a Chinese wife. She is neither young nor attractive. No trace of European blood is perceptible in her features. Her husband, however, is a tall, dark, and handsome man, and she is a good-looking woman.

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